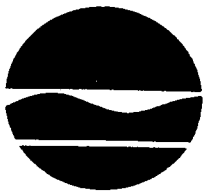


NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT OF



ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONSERVATION

Public Meeting  
Invitation

Thursday,  
February 21, 2002  
6:00 p.m.

State Office Building  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room  
207 Genessee Street  
Utica, NY 13501



*The NYS Departments of Environmental Conservation and Health (NYSDEC and NYSDOH) will discuss the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) for the Former Bossert Manufacturing Facility. At the meeting representatives from NYSDEC and NYSDOH will:*

- describe results of detailed site investigations;
- explain the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP);
- answer your questions about the PRAP;
- receive your verbal or written comments about the proposal

Public Comment  
Period

From: February 13, 2002  
To: March 15, 2002

# FACT SHEET

Former Bossert Manufacturing Facility: 6-33-029

1002 Oswego Street, Utica, NY

Oneida County

NYSDEC, Region #6

February 2002

438662



## Proposed Remedy For the Former Bossert Manufacturing Facility



### Public Meeting, Comment Period Announced



The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), in cooperation with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) is proposing a No Further Action remedy with deed restrictions to address the contamination at the Former Bossert Manufacturing Facility (Bossert Site) in Utica, New York. (*see map of site on p. 4 of this fact sheet*).

#### The Proposed Remedy:

The proposed remedy is described in the site's "Proposed Remedial Action Plan" (PRAP). The PRAP was developed using detailed information from the Site Soil Characterization report developed by NYSDEC. The PRAP presents the preferred remedy by NYSDEC and NYSDOH. The preferred remedy is compliant with the Standards, Criteria, and Guidance (SCGs) and is protective of human health and the environment.

#### Highlights of the PRAP include:

- As a result of the findings of the Site Soil Characterization Report, an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) was conducted at the Bossert site. An Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of a site investigation.
- This IRM included the removal and proper off site disposal of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contaminated surface soil and subsurface soil. In addition, underground storage tanks (USTs) and the related soil around them were removed and properly disposed off site.
- The Bossert site is proposed to be removed from the New York State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites. No further action is required.
- Deed restrictions are proposed to maintain the existing perimeter fence, restrict groundwater use, maintain the protective soil cover and restrict the site usage to industrial/commercial.

*See the other side of this fact sheet for a summary of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan.*

**Your Opportunities to Comment on the Proposed Remedial Action Plan.** Your comments about the PRAP are welcomed and encouraged. Written comments may be sent to:

Mr. John Durnin

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Division of Environmental Remediation

Bureau of Central Remedial Action, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor

625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-7016

*The full PRAP is available for your review at the document repositories listed below.*

# Proposed Remedial Action Plan

*To better understand the site and the investigations conducted, the public is encouraged to review the project documents at the following repositories:*

**NYSDEC Central Office**  
625 Broadway, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7016  
Contact :Mr. John Durnin, Project Manager  
(518) 402-9775  
M-F 8:30am to 4pm APPOINTMENT  
NEEDED

**NYSDEC Region #6 Office**  
State Office Building  
207 Genessee Street,  
Utica, NY 13501  
Contact: Mr. Jack Marsch  
(315) 793-2554 M-F 8:30am to 4pm  
APPOINTMENT NEEDED

**City of Utica Public Library**  
303 Genessee Street  
Utica, NY 13501  
M, W, Th - 9am to 5:30 pm  
(315) 735-2279

**City of Utica Clerk's Office**  
City Office Building, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
1 Kennedy Plaza  
Utica, NY 13502 M-F 8am to 4pm  
(315) 792-0117

**For More Information:** Call or write the following staff for more information about:

## Meeting/Comment Period/PRAP:

Mr. John Durnin  
NYSDEC, Div. Environmental Remediation  
625 Broadway, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-7016  
(518)402-9775; 1(800)342-9296

## Health-Related Concerns:

Mr. Gregory Rys  
NYSDOH  
Herkimer District Office  
5665 State Route 5  
Herkimer, NY 13350

## Site Location and Description

The Bossert site is located at 1002 Oswego Street in the City of Utica, Oneida County, New York (see Figure 1). The site consists of an abandoned 210,000 square foot production facility located on a 6.9 acre parcel. This NYSDEC Class 2 Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site is located in a mixed industrial, commercial, and residential area known as West Utica.

From approximately 1896 to 1985, Bossert fabricated and welded sheet metal products such as brake plates and steel floor grates. The site was connected to public water, public sewage and gas. The Mohawk River is located approximately one mile to the north of the site.

## Site History

### Operational/Disposal History

The Bossert site, while in production, utilized polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) oils in electrical transformers and in hydraulic presses. Manufacturing processes, waste disposal practices, and machinery salvage operations performed subsequent to the facility closure reportedly resulted in the spread of PCB residues.

### Remedial History

The US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) conducted emergency clean-up activities within the buildings in 1987. The USEPA sampled and disposed off site significant quantities of PCB contaminated hazardous waste.

During the early 1990's the City of Utica investigated the Bossert buildings and found PCBs, asbestos and mercury contamination. 28 metal stamping presses were contaminated with PCBs and related hazardous waste was stored within a portion of the buildings. This investigation work was funded by the NYSDEC through the 1986 Environmental Quality Bond Act Title 3 Program.

On June 3, 1993 a geophysical survey was conducted at the Bossert site resulting in the discovery of a 30,000 gallon underground storage tank (UST). The UST and

# Proposed Remedial Action Plan

its contents were excavated, removed and properly disposed off site in February of 1995 by the City of Utica.

The USEPA conducted an additional clean-up activity between 1997 and 1998. The USEPA drained and externally decontaminated the 28 metal stamping presses and cleaned the sumps below each press prior to filling and sealing each sump. Asbestos abatement throughout the buildings was conducted (excluding the roof) and the mercury waste in the boiler room (Area 8) was remediated. The 28 large metal stamping presses were not removed at this time.

In the Fall of 1998 a subsurface site investigation was conducted by the NYSDEC. Surface soils, subsurface soils (including under the building slabs), groundwater and the storm drains were investigated.

In the Spring of 2001 the NYSDEC completed the removal of the 28 metal stamping presses and a soil removal Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) to address the contaminated soils. The Bossert buildings remain in place and are in poor structural condition.

## Site Characterization

A site characterization (SC) was conducted between July 1999 and March 2000. A report entitled "Former Bossert Manufacturing Facility Site Soil Characterization Report, May 1999" prepared by NYSDEC has been prepared which describes the field activities and findings of the SC in detail. The SC included the following activities:

- Installation of 32 Geoprobe soil borings and analysis of subsurface soils (including under the building slabs) as well as physical properties of the soil.
- Installation of eight monitoring wells and 15 miniwells for analysis of groundwater as well as physical properties and hydrogeologic conditions.
- Collection of 74 subsurface soil samples from the monitoring well borings and analysis of soils.
- Collection of 38 surface soil samples and related analysis.
- Collection of 6 sediment samples from catch

basins/manholes and related analysis.

- Collection of 8 Passive In-Situ Chemical Extraction Sampler (PISCES) water samples from Nail Creek and related analysis.
- Removal of two 3000 gallon underground storage tanks (USTs).

## Interim Remedial Measures

An Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is conducted at a site when a source of contamination or exposure pathway can be effectively addressed before completion of a site investigation. An IRM was undertaken at the Bossert site in response to the results of the SC.

This IRM included the removal and proper off site disposal of surface soil and subsurface soil contaminated with inorganic compounds (metals), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOCs), and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). In addition, USTs and the related soil around them were removed and properly disposed off site. The following is a summary of the remedial work completed in the IRM during the fall of 2000:

- Two underground storage tanks (USTs) were found and removed. Contaminated soil was also excavated and properly disposed off site to meet the SCGs.
- All underground piping that was encountered was excavated and disposed at a permitted off site facility.
- The contaminated soil around a third UST (previously decommissioned in place) was removed and properly disposed off site.
- 4 locations were excavated to depth (2 ft. to 7 ft.) to remove contaminated subsurface soils (PCBs, 2-butanone).
- Confirmatory sampling during the subsurface soil excavation was conducted and additional soil excavation was done until the SCGs were met.
- Storm drain piping and related catch basins (6) and manholes (5) were cleaned to meet the SCGs.
- Contaminated surface soil was removed (1 ft. depth) throughout the site (except Area 20) including the soil adjacent to the sidewalks around the buildings to meet the SCGs for PCBs, SVOCs and metals. The excavated soil was replaced with clean fill material.
- Area 20 was covered with a minimum of 1 foot of cover material (crushed stone) to meet the SCGs. Maintenance of this protective cover is necessary.

# Proposed Remedial Action Plan

## Elements of the Proposed Remedy

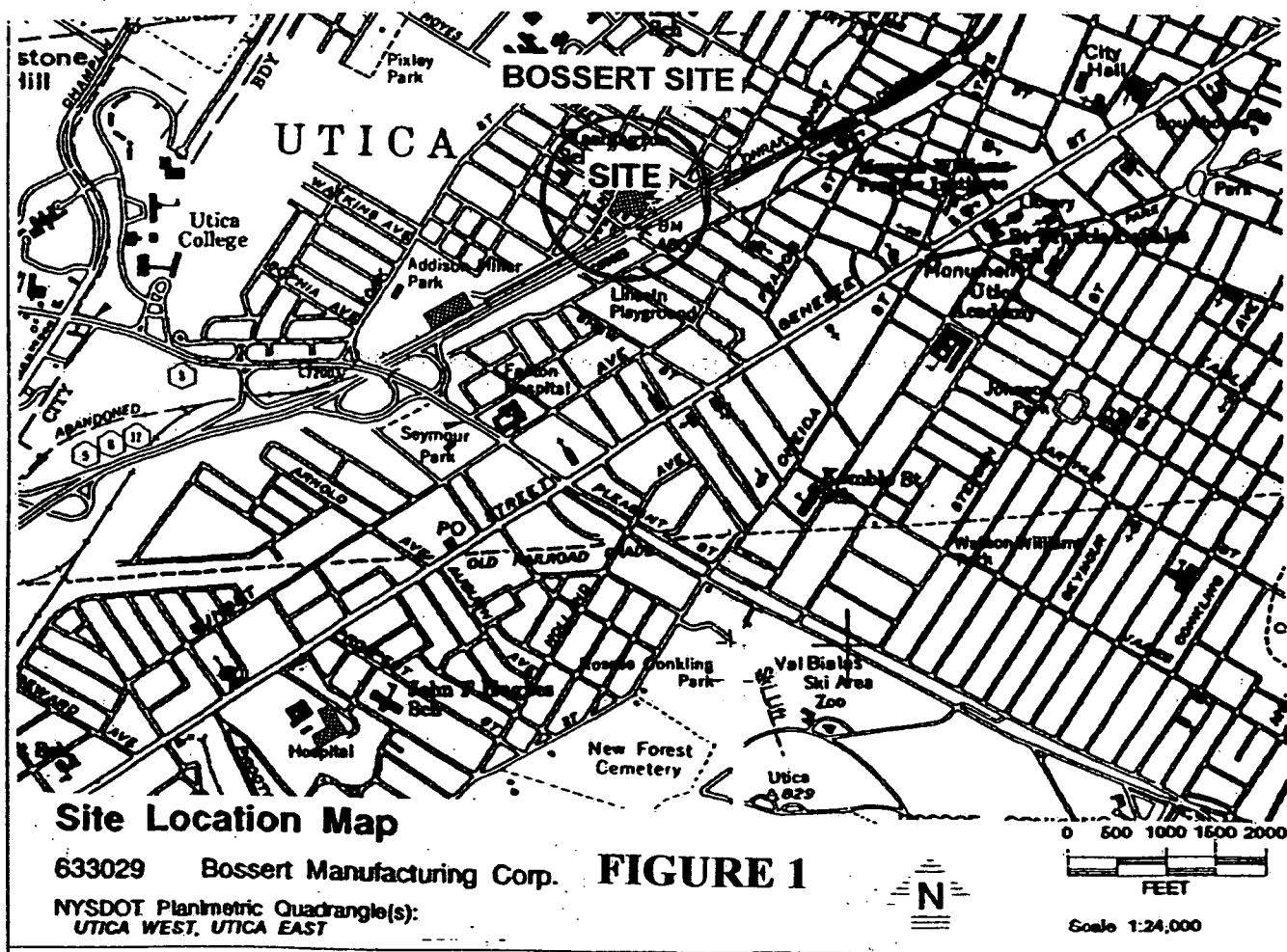
The NYSDEC is proposing No Further Action with institutional controls in the form of deed restrictions as the preferred remedy for the site.

The deed restrictions would require the following:

- notification of the NYSDEC prior to site development and change in ownership,
- existing use and development restrictions limiting the use of groundwater as a potable or process water without necessary water quality treatment as determined by the NYSDOH from affected areas,
- require a demolition debris management plan to address the proper handling and disposal of the deteriorating Bossert buildings as a result of any development at the site,
- any soils that are excavated would have to be managed, characterized, and properly disposed of in

accordance with NYSDEC regulations and guidance,

- maintain the existing perimeter fence until the deteriorating buildings are removed or made structurally safe,
- maintain the crushed stone protective cover in Area 20,
- restrict site uses to industrial/commercial purposes and would prohibit certain land uses such as playgrounds, daycare facilities, medical facilities, residential, and recreational applications,
- the owner of the site would annually certify to the NYSDEC that the institutional controls are in place and enforced as required by the remedy.
- to ensure that the deed restrictions are properly implemented, an Order on Consent would be signed by the owner (City of Utica) agreeing to enforce the deed restrictions.



# Proposed Remedial Action Plan

